

On motion of Mr. Williamson, referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

A bill to be entitled an act to prescribe the times for holding the District Courts of the fifth judicial district.

Read second time; and

On motion of Mr. Brashear, referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

A bill to be entitled an act to prescribe the times for holding the sessions of the District Courts in the fifth judicial district.

Read second time, and on motion of Mr. Jewett, referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

A bill to be entitled an act to define the times of holding the District Courts in the tenth judicial district.

Read second time.

Mr. Williams moved to refer the bill to the committee on the Judiciary.

Lost.

On motion of Mr. Fitzgerald, the bill was referred to the committee on State Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Wallace, the Senate adjourned until half past 9 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, Half-past 9 o'clock, a. m.
February 24th, 1848.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

The following Senators answered to their names:

Messrs. Abbott, Bourland, Brashear, Bache, Burleson, Clark, Dancy, Gage, Grimes, Jewett, Fitzgerald, McRae, Navarro, Parker, Phillips, Wallace, Williams, Williamson and Wooten.

Quorum present.

The journal of the preceding day was read and adopted.

Mr. Grimes, chairman of the committee on Finance, made the following report:

The committee on Finance, to which was referred a joint

resolution for the relief of Luis Sanchez, have had the subject under consideration.

The preamble to the resolution sets forth the nature of the claim, which claim is authenticated by evidences of an undoubted character, and presents itself as one of more than ordinary merit, and calculated to create sympathy in his behalf. Notwithstanding the acknowledged justness of the claim, your committee decline recommending the payment thereof: they would ask leave to return the resolution for the consideration of the Senate.

Mr. Dancy, from the committee on Claims and Accounts, made the following report:

The committee on Claims and Accounts, to whom was referred "the petition of Samuel W. Fisher, administrator of the estate of James Wilmer Dallam, deceased, &c.," have instructed me to state to the Senate, that it appears that Mr. Dallam made his "digest of the laws of Texas," without being employed by the late Republic, and that the State does not owe him anything therefor.

This seems to be an application for an appropriation, because Mr. Dallam expended a large amount of money to publish said work, and died without deriving any profit from his labors.

The committee think that the Treasury of the State is not in a situation to justify an appropriation at this time, and instruct me to report, that they consider it inexpedient to grant the prayer of the petitioner.

JON W. DANCY,

One of the Committee.

A message was received from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that the House had passed the following Bills. viz:

A bill to be entitled an act for the relief of Ann Terrell, widow and relict of George W. Terrell, deceased:

A bill to be entitled an act to amend the first, third and seventh sections of "An act to define the times of holding the Courts in the several Judicial Districts in the State of Texas," passed 11th May, 1846;

A bill to be entitled an act to create the county of William.

A bill to be entitled an act to incorporate the Republican Academy, in the county of Harrison;

A bill to be entitled an act to define the boundaries of the county of Austin;

A bill to be entitled an act, supplementary to "an act, to incorporate the town of Refugio;"

A bill to be entitled an act for the relief of Alfred Brigance; Also,

That the House had passed the following bills, which originated in the Senate, viz.:

A bill to be entitled an act for the relief of the heirs of Patrick Reels; and,

A bill to be entitled an act organizing the militia of Santa Fe.

The Senate proceeded to the Orders of the day.

A bill to be entitled an act to provide for ascertaining the Public Debt of Texas, together with the report of the committee on Finance, offering a substitute therefor, was read, and report adopted.

On motion of Mr. Grimes, the bill was read section by section.

Mr. Williamson moved to amend the second section by striking out "three" and inserting "six" before "month."

Adopted.

Mr. Williamson moved to amend further, by striking out "first day of January, 1850," and inserting "second Monday in November, 1849."

Adopted.

Mr. Williamson moved to strike out all after "postponed," in same section.

Carried.

Mr. Dancy moved to amend by striking out "record," and inserting "keep a correct list."

Adopted.

Mr. Jewett moved to insert "jointly" after "Comptroller," in second line.

Carried.

Mr. Williamson moved to amend by striking out all after "Texas," and inserting in lieu thereof "and thirdly, such claims as are not sufficiently authenticated by vouchers, it is hereby

made the duty of the Auditor and Comptroller to report to the next Legislature for its action."

Adopted.

Mr. Williamson offered the following as a substitute for the third section :

"Sec. 3d. Be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Comptroller and Auditor, jointly, to report to the next biennial session of the Legislature for final adjustment the whole amount and character of the Public Debt, ascertained according to the provisions of this act, together with such suggestions concerning the same as they may deem just and proper ; and they shall likewise report semi-annually from the first of May, 1848, to the Governor, the amount and character of claims presented and filed in their office ; and it shall be the duty of the Governor to cause a synopsis of the report to be printed in some newspaper at the seat of Government in the State."

Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Williamson, the fourth section was stricken out by the following vote :

Yeas—Messrs. Brashear, Clark, Cuny, Dancy, Gage, Jewett, Fitzgerald, Navarro, Phillips, Wallace, Williams and Williamson—12.

Nays—Messrs. Bourland, Bache, Burleson, Grimes, McRae and Perkins—6.

On motion of Mr. Jewett, the fifth section was stricken out.

On motion of Mr. Williamson, the sixth section was stricken out.

Mr. Williamson moved to amend the caption of the bill by striking out "the" before "ascertaining," and "and payment of the" after "ascertaining."

Adopted.

Mr. Burleson moved to re-commit the bill to the committee on Indian Affairs.

Lost.

Mr. Williamson moved to add to the third section "and that this act take effect from and after its passage."

Carried.

Mr. Burleson moved to strike out the enacting clause of the bill.

Mr. Burleson, by leave of the Senate, withdrew the motion to strike out.

On motion of Mr. Burleson, the bill was laid upon the table.

A bill to be entitled an act to authorize a special tax to be collected in the county of Guadalupe.

Read second time, and passed to a third reading.

A bill to be entitled an act to authorize the county court of Fort Bend to levy an additional tax.

Read second time, and passed to a third reading.

A bill to be entitled an act to authorize a special tax to be levied upon the citizens of Harris county, was read, and

On motion of Mr. Brashear, laid upon the table.

A bill to be entitled an act for the relief of David F. Webb, together with the report of the committee on Claims and Accounts thereon, offering amendments, was read.

Report adopted, and bill ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Wallace move to suspend the rule.

Lost.

The report of the committee of conference, on the bill to be entitled an act authorizing persons who have received donation certificates under the provisions of "an act granting lands to those who were in the battle of San Jacinto, and other battles," approved December 20th, 1837, to alienate said certificates and the lands acquired under them, was read and adopted.

On motion of Mr. Jewett, the Senate adjourned until 9 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Friday, 9 o'clock, A. M.
February 25th, 1848.

The Senate was called to order by the President—The following Senators answered to their names:

Messrs. Bourland, Brashear, Bache, Burleson, Clark, Cuny, Grimes, Jewett, Fitzgerald, McRae, Navarro, Perkins, Phillips, Wallace, Williams, Williamson and Wootten.

Quorum present.

The Journal of the preceding day was read and adopted.

Mr. Williams, chairman of the committee on Internal Improvements made the following report: